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[SEAL]

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SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM, MEDIA
AND GRAPHIC ARTS
DIVISION OF JOURNALISM

August 31, 1994

Ms. Carrie M. Gavin
Assistant Director
Equal Opportunity Programs
Florida A&M University

Dear Ms. Gavin:

Your letter of August 23 referenced allegations of racial discrimination and requested my written response to same by Monday, August 29. I called your office last Friday to ask for a full week's time to reply to the complaints that have been made against me, and Mr. Bill Adams, acting in your absence, kindly granted the extension.

I am well aware of the September 20, 1993 classroom incident cited in your letter; indeed, my anguish about it at the time, in the days following and during the past 11 months has been acute. But before I submit a formal written response to allegations stemming from it there are some things I must know. First, what are the specific charges and when and how were they filed with our office? Second, given the actions already taken by the

University in the wake of the incident, what particular assurances can you give me that the investigation this time will be, as you say, "thorough and impartial"? Has the context of such an inquiry been compromised in any way by the President's prior position on the matter and/or by other factors such as published statements which have appeared over the past year? How is it possible now to get a fair hearing?

I also respectfully request copies of all forms, memoranda and any other documents your office has pertaining to the allegations. I wish to fully cooperate with you in resolving this expeditiously, of course, and will file a formal statement within one week after I've received the requested items and your written answers to my questions. Thank you for your cooperation and help in this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gerald M. Gee
Gerald M. Gee

xc: Dean Robert Ruggles
Dr. James Hawkins
Dr. William Tucker
Mr. Thomas Brooks